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Susan M. Barry

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: H. Robert Horvitz et al.

Art Unit: 1632

Serial No.: 08/984,178

Examiner: Shukla, R.

Filed: December 3, 1997

Title: CLONING SEQUENCING AND CHARACTERIZATION OF TWO  
CELL DEATH GENES AND USES THEREFORAssistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231REPLY TO EXAMINER'S ACTION

In reply to the Examiner's Action mailed May 23, 2000, Applicants provide the following Amendments and Remarks.

In the Claims

Cancel claims 2, 9, 10, and 11.

Amend claims 1, 3, 8, 17, 21, and 36 as follows.

B<sup>1</sup> 1. (Twice Amended) An isolated and purified *ced-3* nucleic acid comprising a